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An even dozen: Revenue earns clean audit for 12th straight year

OLYMPIA, Wash., March 24, 2004 — The Department of Revenue has earned a clean audit for the 12th straight year.

State Auditor Brian Sonntag announced today that no irregularities were found during an annual review of Revenue's operations and procedures. His auditors found the department had complied with state laws and regulations as well as its own policies and procedures. They also reviewed internal controls and closely examined areas that have the potential for abuse and misuse of public resources.

"The Department of Revenue should be proud of its 12 years of clean audit reports. This ties a record for the number of years without an audit finding by a major state agency," Sonntag said. "This demonstrates the Department's commitment to accountability over public resources."

Director Will Rice said he is extremely proud of the integrity and dedication agency employees exercise every day in handling the more than \$12 billion in taxpayer payments each year.

"Twelve years of clean audits shows the importance we place on financial controls and the care Revenue employees take in the handling of taxpayers' money," said Rice. "We will continue to look at ways to improve our processes and accountability and go for a record 13th clean audit next year."

The department recently won two national awards from the Federation of Tax Administrators recognizing its achievements in improving taxpayer compliance and innovatively managing this state's tax system.

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